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MISCELLANEOUS.

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Politics of Europe.

No addition was made to our European Intelligence by the Reports or the Dawks of Saturday. We have taken occasion, therefore, to introduce in our present Number, an interesting Memoir of the Life and Exploits of the celebrated Ali Pasha of Yanina, which has been translated from a late French Paper for our pages. The distinguished part which this Chieftain has taken in the struggles of the Albanians against the Porte, and the part he is likely to take in his newly assumed character of a Christian in the Revolution of the Greeks, render him an object of considerable interest at the present moment; and the details of his Life will reward the curiosity of those who may be tempted to peruse them.

In our Asiatic Sheet will be found an able and important Report of the Resident of Travancore, made to the Government of Fort St. George, on the State of the Syrian and other Christians in that province, which deserves attentive perusal and adds another to the many proofs already cited of the unfounded nature of that outcry and alarm which is raised against the Freedom of Opinion and the Spread of Knowledge in India.

As it affords us pleasure to select from the pages of our Contemporaries whatever we may find in them suited to our own, we gave on Saturday a quotation from the *Government Gazette* regarding the Revolution at Naples, and we take occasion to follow this up by a portion of an article in the *Hurkaru* of Saturday, selected by the Editor from an English Paper, as peculiarly worthy the attention of his Readers, and recommended equally by us to the attention of our own. It is gratifying to us, and must be so to others we presume, to see these occasional aberrations from the line marked out by these Papers for their pursuit. They look like the lucid intervals of deranged intellects, or the confessions of ungarded moments, when the spirit of hostility to liberal sentiments is asleep. From whatever cause they spring, these lapses are useful, and we shall endeavour to increase their utility by giving to the sentiments alluded to still wider circulation. The Writer quoted by the *Hurkaru* is professedly treating of the Question of British Interference in Foreign Quarrels generally, and speaks thus of the particular instances in which he thinks we ought to stand forward; we heartily concur in every sentiment here expressed:

"While we would deprecate any attempt to involve this Country in the every-day contests which springs from the folly, the resentments, or the ambition of princes, we acknowledge that a great emergency may occur when neutrality or indifference would be the reproach of the British name, an everlasting stigma upon our character, an abnegation of the great principles which are the foundations of our liberties, and a deplorable proof of our degeneracy from the gallant, generous, and heroic spirit with which our Fathers succoured a people struggling with tyranny, and abetted every effort of which the object was the assertion of independence or the diffusion of freedom. If our Elizabeth was formidable in her own age, and glorious in every succeeding one, is not this living and posthumous greatness palpably traced to the generous alacrity with which she stimulated and assisted the Low Countries to redeem themselves from the bondage of Philip, and the Hugonotes to claim from God and their good swords the right to worship His name, without let or penalty, according to the dictates of their consciences? Whenever, therefore, a neighbour-

ing state is involved in contest for independence or liberty, our feelings, our principles, and interests, must all point one way; and whenever our blood ceases to mantle with indignation at "the oppressor's wrongs," it shall proclaim the carcasses it animates a spurious and bastard brood, unworthy the name, the descent, and the honours of Englishmen. Now, it is our belief and conviction that this critical moment, if not already arrived, must be shortly at hand; and we regret most sincerely that we have not first ascertained what might be accomplished by mediation in a cause in which we must inevitably and not remotely be engaged as parties and principals. Is it possible that we should continue to be unconcerned spectators? An enlightened and independent Nation thinks proper to copy that seductive and glorious example, which we were the first to hold out to the imitation of the world. The surrounding nations read a memorable lesson in our history: tyranny was upon us, it pressed as an incubus, stunting the growth and vitiating the soundness of the political body; but when its pressure is violently shook off, that body becomes suddenly and wonderfully dilated, and its dimensions are amplified and enlarged to the uttermost extremities of the earth, in health, and vigour, and energy, and unprecedented mightiness. While such was the glorious majesty of liberated England, every other nation must have felt humbled and indignant at the contrast presented by their own condition, and by a very natural transition, impatient to remove the obvious cause of their degradation, impoverishment, and impotence:—nor were we backward in maturing (somewhat ungenerously) those sentiments, by the taunts, reproaches, and contempt, with which we insulted over their thralldom, reminded them of their inferiority and baseness. At length, in the fulness of time and of oppression, they rise up, and claim that right to modify and reform their government, which is either divine and imperceptible, or the People of England have been rebels, and their Sovereigns usurpers, for more than a century. It is true, our Allies, and "they are all" if not "honorable," at least *holy* men, have reprobated this right, and denied that any lawful rights can belong to a people, except such as have spontaneously emanated from the generosity and good-pleasure of the monarch. This principle, if recognised and enforced, destroys at once all prospect of social improvement or human melioration, and mankind must succumb to the yoke of despotism in silent and reckless despair. What despot has ever relaxed his yoke? What arbitrary monarch has ever voluntarily set limits to his authority, and exchanged a capricious sway for power regulated and defined by settled principles of law? Such is the brutish condition to which the lust and insolence of tyranny would reduce men superior to their oppressors in every great, and good, and earthly quality of our common nature."

Whenever we have ventured to write and publish such sentiments as these, as our own, they have been called treasonable, seditious, revolutionary, abominable, and we know not what besides. In any other Paper they would be esteemed loyal, good, and patriotic, as indeed they are. Our own Revolution, and the effort by which we shook off Tyranny in former days, is here called "that seductive and glorious example which we were the first to hold out to the imitation of the world." Our Freedom, won by Revolution is here called "The glorious majesty of liberated England;" yet when we say, and say truly, that such of our countrymen as would seek Reform even by Revolution, if it could be effected by no other means, would risk the being imprisoned, banished, or hung, for failure, though success would make them

Patriots and Deliverers,—and when we add that without some greater effort than has yet been made, there is little hope of any Reform whatever, we are branded with the name of Traitors. This however is the necessary first step of all Reforms. The American Rebels became American Patriots, because they succeeded. The Irish Rebels are not yet Patriots because they have not succeeded. The Spanish Insurgents are now Spanish Heroes because they gained their end. The Neapolitan Leaders are proscribed, outlawed, and have a price on their heads, because they did not effect theirs. In short all History confirms the truth of that incontrovertible distich

“Treason ne’er prospers—would you know the reason?

Why, when it prospers—none dare call it Treason.”—

- When Reform can be effected by Petition and Remonstrance, and Freedom and Justice maintained by reason and persuasion, it is of course most desirable;—but when all these fail, are the Oppressed to bear for ever their Oppressor’s chains? England has often answered No! and burst her Tyrant’s fetters. America followed her parent country’s example. France, and Spain, and Portugal, and Naples, became successively enlightened and enthusiastic in the cause of Liberty; and now the Southern Peninsula of Colombia in the other hemisphere, and Greece, so long the slave of Turkey, in the northern, are each struggling in arms for that Emancipation which Petition and Remonstrance would never obtain for them. Can principles, thus sanctioned by the universal voice of freemen, wherever they exist, and acted on by the most enlightened nations on the face of the earth, be “abominable,” because we only follow that universal voice in repeating them? Slaves, perhaps, who hug their chains and are in love with despotism and arbitrary rule may think so. But we contend, in the language of the writer quoted by the *Hurkaru*, that “whenever our blood ceases to mantle with indignation at the Oppressor’s wrongs it shall proclaim the carcasses it animates a spurious and bastard brood, unworthy the name, the descent, and the honors of Englishmen;” or in the words of the *Government Gazette*, quoted on Saturday, (and we are proud of two such unexceptionable authorities) we say that “every Englishman who has one genuine drop of the crimson sap of Freedom circulating in his veins must sympathize with the efforts of his continental brethren, and wish them success in their just and rightful efforts to ameliorate their political condition.”

We have long since set the example of this reciprocal interchange of materials, and never scruple to repeat from other Papers all that we can approve as suited to our own: and we should like to see this generally followed up by others. It is on this principle that we have repeated those liberal doctrines and sentiments quoted by us from the *Hurkaru* and the *Government Gazette*, and if we met with any thing in the same exalted strain in the pages of *John Bull*, we should quite as readily transfer it to our own, whether John copied from us or not, as we trust he will yet do when Time shall have calmed all angry feeling. We should not omit indeed to notice that under the specious disguise of reproving us for the very same sentiments as those we have quoted so largely from the *Hurkaru* of to-day, an ingenious Writer in that Paper, under the signature of C. is so taken with those sentiments whenever they are professed by us, that he evidently entertains on that account a strong regard for the *Calcutta Journal*. It is highly probable, indeed, that he sleeps with it under his pillow; for he evidently dreams of it by night, and raves of it by day, and in short, whether sleeping or waking, it appears to absorb all his faculties. He studies its pages with such minute attention, that nothing escape him; and in the true spirit of philanthropy, when he meets with any choice portions, which he conceives particularly deserving notice, he selects them from among the mass of other matters, to give them still wider circulation in the pages of a Paper that but for these occasional adornments might be considered dull and unattractive.

In other countries it is thought that if doctrines are blasphemous or seditious, they should be suppressed by every pious and loyal man; and accordingly we have seen Paine’s *Age of Reason*, and *Rights of Man*, so severely proscribed, that any per-

son venturing to re-print or circulate any portion of its contents, (as in the case of Carline for instance) is sentenced to fine and imprisonment, and punished with all the severity of the law. There can be no doubt, but that *real* Blasphemy and Seditious would meet the same fate here; and no man would be found hardy enough to become a vender of second-hand Infidelity and Treason, while he knew the Law could punish the accessory as well as the principal. It is fair to presume, therefore, that the indefatigable C. who devotes so much of his time and attention to the *Journal*, and who selects day after day various portions of it for re-publication in the *Hurkaru*, can be actuated only by the best of motives. His only object must be to draw particular attention to the passages so selected, and to ensure their being read even by those who dread the touch of the *Journal*, as if it were a torpedo.

We are indebted to him for this kindness, and hope he will continue thus to devote his labours for the public weal. We would take the liberty, however, to suggest a still further improvement. If these choice portions of the *Journal* are held to be so good and useful as to deserve being laid daily before the readers of the *Hurkaru*, (and if C. did not think this, he would not take the trouble to select them for that purpose), it would be consistent with this principle to extend the benefit, by giving them insertion also in the *Government Gazette* and *John Bull*, so that they could escape no one’s observation. The hard words with which C. prefaces our sentences, must be a mere ruse to decoy Readers, who need stimulants to draw their attention to any thing on so worn out a subject as the *Journal* and the Journalist. The Newspaper Readers of India grew tired of the Queen in a few short months, though her Majesty and her Defenders had abuse enough (if that were the charm) to make it palatable for a much longer period. The Journalist, however, is a more lasting if not a more prolific topic, and will last no doubt as food for envy, hatred, and malice, as long as the *Journal* remains at the head of the list in circulation. This is the price which must be paid for that post of honor and of profit, whoever may occupy it.

Perhaps the most effectual plan that C. could adopt to gratify his patriotic desires, by giving wide and general circulation to the choice portions of our pages, would be to have them printed separately in a Monthly Number, for gratuitous distribution; so that even those who see none of the Papers might yet benefit from his labours. If he can now devote several hours a day to the purpose of reading, selecting, and commenting on our pages, and expend as much of his pay in stationery as he does of his time in using it, for the purpose of giving wider circulation to our opinions than they would obtain without his assistance, a little stretch of philanthropy would suffice to make him devote himself wholly to this laudable task, which could not fail to bring him honor and renown; for if the partial exercise of his talents in so good a cause be laudable, the more extended use of them to the same end must be still more praise-worthy.

Post-office Steam Packets.—The new Post-office Steam Packets, to be employed between Holyhead and Dublin, have been inspected by the Duke of Gloucester, and other distinguished Personages, previously to their leaving the river for their destination, which will be in the course of a few days. The advantages which these vessels will afford to the communication between the two countries are incalculable. The diagonal mode of construction, upon which the Navy Board has been largely consulted, is so admirable, and the machinery with which they have been fitted, from the celebrated Manufactory at Soho, is so infinitely superior to any thing yet undertaken, that the passage is reduced to an actual certainty; and the mails from London will be regularly delivered in Dublin early on the second day, an idea which would have been scouted as chimerical but a few months back. In an experiment round the Nore, a few days since, the rate of speed was ascertained at 13 miles per hour; one of the miles was performed in four minutes 27 seconds, which considerably exceeds that rate. The accommodations are equal to the qualities of the vessels in other respects; they are peculiarly elegant.—*English Paper.*

Monday, September 10, 1821.

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Population.—According to Colquhoun's *Work on Wealth, Power, &c.* it appears, that from 1700 to 1811, being a period of 111 years, the population of Great Britain has nearly doubled itself, and that, in the same period, the population of Ireland has increased more than 160 per cent; and further, that from 1801 to 1811, there has been the extraordinary addition of nearly a million and a half to the population of Great Britain, and that in the midst of a widely extended war.

Diminution of Deaths in England.

In 1780, one person in 40 died annually.

1790, one ditto in 45 ditto

1800, one ditto in 47 ditto

1801, one ditto in 48 ditto

1810, one ditto in 49 or 50 ditto

Thus making the diminution of mortality in England to be about one fifth in the course of thirty years.

Astronomy.—Baron Lindeneau has recently published some observations respecting the diminution of the solar mass. It will be found, he says, that the sun may have been imperceptibly subject to successive diminution since the science of astronomy has been cultivated. Baron Lindeneau supposes the sun's diameter to be 800,000 miles—4,204,000,000 feet, or nearly 2000 seconds. We have not, he observes, hitherto possessed any instrument for measuring the diameter of heavenly bodies to a second. The sun may therefore diminish 12000 of its diameter, or 2,102,000 feet, without the possibility of being perceived. Supposing the sun to diminish daily 2 feet, it would require *three thousand years* to render the diminution of a second of its diameter visible.

Ceylon.—Dr. Davy, whose pen has enriched the pages of several of our philosophical contemporaries with communications from Ceylon, is also, we understand, about to produce an account of his observations on that country, the greatest plague of which is neither wild beast nor venomous serpents, but—*leeches!*

Reminiscences of Gibbon.—Nothing could be altogether less imposing than the figure and appearance of Gibbon, whose countenance presented one of the most extraordinary physiognomical phenomena imaginable, in consequence of the irregular proportions of each part to the whole. His diminutive eyes exhibited a most singular contrast to his high and stately forehead; his flat nose seemed almost to disappear between his plump and far projecting cheeks; and his long double chin rendered his face, already sufficiently elliptical, still longer and more eccentric. Yet with all these manifest defects, Gibbon's countenance had an uncommon expression of dignity, and denoted at first glance, the deep and acute reasoner. His eyes, though small, were very bright and penetrating.

In his address, Gibbon was polished and refined; but his politeness had more of the studied air of the man of the world, than that of the heart, a sort of spurious civility, which seemed to spring less from a desire to please, than to be thought a finished gentleman. His enunciation in conversation was studied and deliberate, and he always appeared more inclined to listen to the music of his own voice, than to that of any other person's.

The character of his face never varied: and he would listen to a tale of frolic and mirth, with the same profound gravity with which he would hearken to a story of the most poignant woe.

The most rigorous punctuality was always observed throughout his house: and his servants were compelled to execute their duties to a minute, or incur the hazard of being discharged. Of this exactness he was accustomed to set them an example himself. He divided his time after the manner of King Alfred: by the striking of his clock he went to work, to the table, or into society; nor would he prolong either of these employments a moment longer than the time to which he had restricted himself. A hair-dresser had once his congé given him, for being five minutes after the period of his appointment; his successor, in order to be perfectly secure from the fate of his brother Tonsor, presented

himself five minutes sooner than was fixed, for which he also was discharged; and the third, by dint of arriving at the door precisely as the clock struck, was retained.

The late Joseph Armitage, Esq.—In the year 1816, Mr. Armitage set about some very considerable alterations and improvements in his house and pleasure-grounds near Wakefield; and after having proceeded for many months, he began to repent that he had not let well alone; he was also not pleased with his numerous workmen, who had, in some instances, gone beyond the extent of his plans; he perceived too that they delighted in devastation, and were always very active in pulling down, and but very slow and plodding in restoring and putting to rights; and, finally, seeing little or no probability of an early finish for the works, he one morning, very early, made his appearance suddenly among them, and after the manner of *Oliver Cromwell* and his Long Parliament, he thus addressed them:—"You have been here long enough; get ye gone, every man of you from my premises; go directly to my Agent and be paid off; ye are no longer my workmen." After seeing them fairly out of his grounds, he shut the gates with much apparent satisfaction and returned towards the house; and casting his eye from an elevated spot in the front round the numerous and extensive dilapidations, he surveyed them some time with a smile. A bystander now ventured to expostulate, saying, "You had better have let the people have smoothed things over a little, particularly have got off that immense quantity of brick bats and old mortar that lies there close to the principal entrance-door." "Nay!" said he, "things had better remain as they are, they will serve for a memento of folly. No! not a particle shall be moved!" and then he added, in a solemn and determined tone, "No! I'll die in the rubbish!" and so he did!

Roman Pavement.—A beautiful and perfect Roman pavement was lately discovered by Mr. Artis, house steward to Earl Fitzwilliam. It was situated in front of the manor house at Castor, near Petersborough, but we are sorry to hear that these curious remains of Roman taste and grandeur have been removed from the place where they were discovered. The shape of the pavement was an oblong, twenty-one feet long and twelve broad; it had a splendid Mosaic centre, six feet ten inches long and four feet six inches wide; the colours were quite fresh. The situation of the pavement was on the declivity of a hill, one end of it was level with the surface of the ground, and partly uncovered, and the other end was about two feet below the surface. We have since heard that another pavement has been discovered under an ancient gateway, a short distance from the former.

Slave Trade.—We subjoin a short extract from the Correspondence just published in the Parliamentary Papers on the Slave Trade. It exhibits one of the most disgusting pictures of human brutality that ever came under our observation. The case is that of a boat of 11 tons, the property of a Portuguese Governor, having packed on board it, for a voyage across the Atlantic, no less than seventy-one human beings! The condition of these unhappy creatures is thus described in the words of a British Officer, who states facts appalling to every feeling heart:—

Extract from a Declaration of B. M. Kelsy, Esq. Commanding His Majesty's Sloop Pheasant.

"I do declare that the state in which these unfortunate creatures was found, is shocking to every principle of humanity; 17 men shackled together in pairs by the legs, and 20 boys, were on the batches in the main hold, a space measuring 18 feet in length, seven feet eight inches main breadth, and one foot eight inches in height, and under them the yams for their support. One of these unfortunates was in the last stage of dysentery. On their being released from irons their appearance was most distressing, scarcely any of them could stand on their legs from cramp and evident starvation. The space allowed for the females, 34 in number, was even more contracted than for the men, measuring only nine feet four inches in length, four feet eight inches main breadth, and two feet seven inches in height."

Wallace's Soldiers.

The following description of Wallace's Soldiers, from Miss Baillie's "Metrical Legends of exalted Characters," is beautifully characteristic—

His soldiers, firm as living rock,
Now braced them for the battle's shock;
And watch'd their chieftain's keen looks glancing
From marshal'd clans to foes advancing;
Smiled with the smile his eye that lighten'd,
Glow'd with the glow his brow that brighten'd;
But when his burnish'd brand he drew,
His towering form terrific grew.
And every Scotchman, at the sight,
Felt thro' his nerves a giant's might,
And drew his patriot sword with Wallace Wight.

For what of thrilling sympathy.
Did e'er in human bosom vye
With that which stirs the soldier's breast,
When, high in god-like worth confest,
Some noble leader gives command,
To combat for his native land?
No; friendship's freely-flowing tide;
The soul expanding, filial pride,
That hears with craving, fond desire
The bearings of a gallant sire;
The yearning of domestic bliss;
Ev'n love itself, will yield to this.

Nitre used as Manure for Wheat.—Mr. J. Wigfull, sen. of Sheffield, in a letter to the Editor of the *Farmer's Journal* says: "I wrote to you in July last, an account of a then promising crop of wheat, the owner of which informed me that it was a fourth successive crop of the same grain, and that during the preceding winter it appeared in a very exhausted state: but fortunately a druggist informed him of the very fertilizing quality of Nitre. He made a trial of it with quick growing vegetables in his hot-house and garden. In the month of March last, he sowed by hand, on his then failing crop of wheat, 21 lbs of rough Nitre (value less than 10s. 6d.) reduced to powder, and well mixed with three bushels of good earth per acre. The alteration and improvement it made was most amazing. He has threshed out the wheat, and he informs me has a little more than thirty-six bushels of fine good wheat, but including the binder ends or inferior wheat, dressed out, he has nearly forty bushels per acre."

Sermons.—Whitfield preached eighteen thousand sermons during the thirty-four years of his Ministry. The calculation was made from a memorandum-book, in which he noted down the times and places of his preaching. This would be more than ten sermons a week.—Wesley tells us himself, (*Journal XIII.* p. 121.) he preached eight hundred sermons in a year. In fifty-three years, reckoning from his return from America, this would amount to forty-two thousand four hundred.—Collier says, Dr. Litchfield, rector of All Saints, Thames-street, London, who died 1447, left three thousand and eighty-three sermons in his own hand.—*Ecl. Hist. Vol. II.* p. 187.

Gas Lights.—Mr. Hutton, in a letter to the Editor of the *Journal of Science and the Arts*, thus describes an apparatus which he has invented for carrying off the aqueous vapour produced by the combustion of Gas.—To a vertical tube of four feet each, terminated by a bell glass, which enclosed about an inch of the cylindrical glass of the burners, he caused a leaden tube to be fixed by a curved joint, and, suffering it to pass horizontally about three feet, he had it turned vertically downwards, with a curve at the angle to the length of nine feet, through the floor of his shop into the cellar. It succeeded beyond his expectation. It is necessary to have a separate tube to each burner, but Mr. Hutton considers this expense well repaid by the advantage derived. So complete in the condensation, that two ounces of water per hour is produced from each light: the water thus obtained, does not exhibit any impurity except a slight portion of sulphuric acid.

Epigram.

On Mr. Merry's marrying Miss Wise.

To be merry and wise, is an axiom true,
That will carry you cheerfully all the world thro';
But 'tis no easy matter the means to devise
To be at once properly merry and wise;—
Thus Miss, who was wise for a long twenty years,
Is no longer wise now she merry appears;
And Merry's but merry in name; he's so sad
That since he got wise he declares he's got mad.

Anecdote.—When the Duke of Alba went to Henry the 2d, to ask his Daughter in marriage for his Master Philip the 2d, the French King asked him, "Is it true that a sign was perceived in the heaven at the battle of Muhlberg?" to which the Duke of Alba replied, "I was so much concerned with what was going on, on earth, that I paid no attention to the appearances in heaven."

Dean Swift.—It is customary in England, that a Minister should preach at the opening of the Parliament. Dean Swift, whose turn it was to officiate, chose for the subject of his discourse "Vanity;" and observed that it was usually occasioned by four things, viz.:—Birth or Rank, Riches, Beauty, and Wisdom.

He accordingly divided his subject into four parts; and after he had finished the three first parts, concluded with the following remark:—"We would now commence on the fourth part of our subject; but as in this Christian Assembly, there are but few that can boast of the excellency of their mind, it would be unnecessary and not suited to your edification, my beloved! were I to proceed any further on the subject; and I will therefore, conclude this discourse." This piece of irony was the cause of the Dean's being deprived of his situation.

Anecdote.—A Farmer was driving a cart, heavy laden, into a City, and being asked by the exciseman, as to the contents of his bags—jumped out, and with great caution, whispered into the ear of the man, "that they were laden with oats." The man suspecting something thereby, searched the bags, wherein however he found nothing, but what had been told him, and cried aloud, "Yes, it is oats." "For heaven's sake," said the Farmer, "don't speak so loud; for if my horses hear it, they will not move an inch, as they have never in all their life had any oats to eat."

A Cure for the Bile.—Burnt Coal is a powerful remedy for the Cholera Morbus, and Cholic occasioned by the bile. This can be administered, without fear, even to children, provided it be well burnt, in brandy and water, or sugar and water.

The Good Counsellor.—A Thief that had stolen a bag, and was put upon trial, being allowed a Counsellor, was taken aside by him, and told that the best advice he could give him was to abscond; which the Thief of course did. When the President of the Court asked the Advocate, what he had to say in defence of the Prisoner? He replied, "That the man had confessed his fault; and that he could not have advised him better than to make the best of his way, and escape;" which excited considerable laughter.

Female Ingenuity.—A couple at New York, being on their way to the Church to be married, had the following conversation:—

M. "My love, I have told you many things during our courtship, and have not hid any from you, with the exception of three things, that is, when we are married, I shall require to sleep alone, to eat alone, and to have always something to find fault with."

F. Very good! You may sleep alone, I won't. You may eat alone, but I shall eat first. And with regard to your always finding fault, I shall take care not to give any cause for it.

After this they composedly knelt at the altar, and the Minister performed the marriage ceremony.—*From Batavian Papers.*

LITERATURE

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Ali Pasha of Yanina.

ACCOUNT OF ALI, PASHA OF YANINA, AND OF HIS PASHALIC.

Translated from La Ruche D'Aquitaine, for the Calcutta Journal.

Ali first saw the light in the year 1750. His ancestors, Chiefs of a very small independent district in Albania, were established at Tebeleni, a city of ancient Thesprotia, situated four and twenty leagues to the northward of Janina. After the death of his father, a Pasha of two tails, he remained under the tutelage of his mother, a bold, daring, and enterprising woman. But scarcely had he attained the age of 16, when she gave him the command of a small band of faithful soldiers, who had preserved for him the ancient independence of his domain.

At the head of these troops, the young Ali made reiterated attempts, tho' always unsuccessful, against his enemies. In the first expedition even, he was defeated and taken prisoner by the Vizir, Kourid Pasha, who, captivated by the beauty, the lively character, and insinuating manners of the young man, attributed his enterprize to the folly of his age, and contented himself with sending him back with a paternal admonition.

In less than a year, Ali re-opened the campaign, and was again beaten. The treasures of his mother being exhausted, he disdained not to become a robber, for the sake of procuring the means of raising a more considerable Army. But having neglected to use the circumspection and prudence necessary to the attainment of his end, he was soon made a prisoner by the Vizir of Janina. The petty Chiefs of the neighbourhood pressed the Vizir to take away the life of this young brigand; but the Vizir, desirous of giving employment to the turbulent Chiefs by whom he was surrounded, deemed it preferable not only to restore his prisoner to liberty, but even clandestinely to support him.

The hardy enterprizes of Ali Pasha against the Ottoman Porte, excite at this period general attention; under these circumstances, the following details respecting the person, character, and present possessions of this Chief, will not be read without interest:

It was ever his lot to acquire his military habits in the school of adversity. He was again attacked, completely beaten, and reduced to seek a refuge amongst mountains and rocks. He there suffered so much misery, that he was obliged to pawn his sabre to procure a repast.

When, in this state, he regained the house of his mother, this Amazon received him with a contempt truly Spartan. She advised him to clothe himself in female habiliments, and give himself up to the employments of the Harem. He found means, however, to calm her anger, and shortly after we see him at the head of 600 men. But he had not yet arrived at the termination of his misfortunes: he was again beaten and forced to take flight during the night, with the remains of his troop.

In this position he went to repose under the ruins of an ancient edifice, to give himself up quietly to his sad reflexions. Whilst absorbed in meditation, he mechanically struck the earth with a stick which he held in his hand; he unexpectedly met resistance, examined further, and found a coffer filled with gold. He has himself related to General Vaudoucourt, the details of this event, too important then for him ever to have forgotten it. By means of this treasure he rapidly rose a corps of 2000 men, attacked his adversaries, obtained a first advantage, and returned in triumph to Tepeleni.

From this moment fortune no longer abandoned him. But from this same period, his ferocious, traitorous, and perfidious character developed itself in all its force. The day of his return to Tepeleni, he accused his brother of having carried on a correspondence with his enemies, and with his own hand plunged a dagger in his heart. The following day, he charged his mother with this crime, reproaching her with having poisoned the victim to rid him of a dangerous rival. Under the pretext of punish-

ing her for it, he deprived her of all the authority she had until then enjoyed, and shut her up in the Harem, where she soon afterwards died of grief and rage.

At length to maintain and employ his troops, he again commenced his system of brigandage, but on a more enlarged scale. He put under contribution all the countries of Epirus and Macedonia, and blockaded the defiles of Pindus which traverse the route of Thessaly. His numerous excesses at length excited the attention of the Divan of Constantinople, and the Dervengy Pasha (Inspector General of Roads) received orders to march against him.

The wily Bandit endeavoured at first to conquer by detachments, the troops of his adversary; afterwards he offered to assist him in his expedition against the Vizir Scutari, to chastize that Rebel. This proposition was accepted; and after the reduction of this Vizir, the Divan received so advantageous a report of the services rendered by Ali, that it granted him not only pardon of his offences, but even signal marks of favor. He profited by this to pillage all the Beys, who had formerly oppressed either him or his father. He was then about 22 years old, and married the daughter of Pasha d'Agro Castro.

A quarrel soon after rising between his two brothers-in-law, Ali advised the younger to assassinate the elder. The horror which fratricide inspired, deprived the murderer of the fruits of his crime. In the intestine war which was the consequence, Ali took possession of the territory of Charnova, the commandant of which he stabbed, and plundered and massacred the inhabitants, and sacked the capital. Attacking afterwards the Greeks of the district of Libowo, he overcame them after a long resistance, and thus rendered himself master of the whole valley of Chelydians.

A short time afterwards, the Porte became desirous of ridding itself of Selim, Pasha of Delvino. Ali charged himself with this affair, on condition that he should be nominated his successor. Having succeeded in winning the good graces of the Pasha Selim, and his son Mustapha; and surrounding them with his trusty followers and then taking them by surprise, he beheaded the father and threw the son into a dungeon: but the indignation of the people at such perfidy, obliged the traitor rapidly to take flight. Nevertheless, Ali was recognized at Constantinople, as a faithful and useful servant, and appointed Lieutenant of the Dervengy Pasha. This latter, born in the capital of the Empire, and not acquainted with the provinces, flattered himself with the hope of being soon able to disperse the brigands by having the most famous of them under his command as a Lieutenant: Ali, on his part, sold the diplomas of the Grand Signior, and thus legalized the exercise of their ignoble profession. This traffic, added to other speculations, produced him immense sums.

At length, the Porte perceiving that all the routes in its European territory were infested by thieves, demanded from the Dervengy Pasha and his Lieutenant an account of their administration. The Pasha, on his arrival at Constantinople was beheaded; but Ali prudently remained at home, sent to the ministers a part of his booty, and offered at the same time to follow the Grand Vizir to the war which was proclaimed between Russia, Austria, and the Porte. They accepted the offer with joy, and even gave him promotion.

In this war, Ali signalized himself by his bravery, as well as by his intelligence: however, whether from his habitual treachery, or whether to insure a retreat in case of accidents, he entered into secret negotiations with Potemkin. He had even the imprudence or the vanity to shew a watch ornamented with precious stones, which he said the Prince had made him a present of in consideration of his valour and talents.

Extremely rich after the peace, he regularly retained at Constantinople an agent to conduct his business, and to gain for him by force of gold the favor of ministers. In fact he soon got himself appointed Pasha of Tricola, a petty district of Thessaly. The neighbourhood of this redoubtable man spread alarm amongst all the Greek Merchants of Janina, which Pashalic was then vacant. However numerous the parties were into which it was divided, the terror which Ali inspired, instantly united

them all. They addressed a petition to the Divan to give them any Governor it wished except him. This request was favorably received, and an order expedited to Ali, forbidding him to set foot in Janina; but he, aware of this measure, before the arrival of the messenger, caused his writers to address him a supposed Firman, by which he was appointed Dervengy Pasha, with an injunction immediately to occupy Janina.

With the rapidity of lightning, Ali presented himself with his army at the gates of the town: the inhabitants stupified, and not at all doubting the authenticity of his Firman, permitted him to enter, and surrendered to him the citadel. Thus master of the place, Ali convoked the inhabitants, threatening with death all those who refused instantly to obey, and made them sign, without permitting them to read it, a petition to the Grand Signior, by which they prayed him to constitute Ali their sole Governor. He then forced them to collect a considerable sum of money, which he sent with the petition, to support it with the Ministers. The result of this manœuvre is easily divined.

It was thus that Ali became master of a country, where he has been able, until the present day, to maintain himself almost entirely independant of the Porte. His greatest enemies were the Venetians, who possessed the Seven Ionian Islands; and on the continent Bucintoro and Prevesa: they were allied also with the petty Republic of Parga.

In 1798 Venice fell, and the French proceeded to occupy all the ancient Venetian possessions. Ali instantly addressed himself to Buonaparte, proposing to unite with him against the common enemy. Buonaparte, charmed with the proposition, sent him some French Engineers to put his fortresses in a good state, and to increase his army.

When, a short time afterwards, the Porte declared war against France, on account of the Expedition to Egypt. Ali evinced his zeal by augmenting his troops, and making the strongest possible armaments, and assuring the Agent of Buonaparte that he was prepared to strike a grand blow. In the mean time he demanded 80,000 francs for provisions, which he pretended to have furnished to Admiral Bruix. The Governor of Corfu, for want of money, offered him guns which were gladly accepted. Ali then wrote to the French General Roze, and requested him to come to Janina, that he might concert with him the means of repulsing the combined Russian and Turkish Fleet which was approaching. Roze, who believed himself connected by ties of friendship with the Pasha, hesitated not to accept the invitation; but as soon as he arrived, he was thrown into prison, and put to the torture, to extort from him the secrets of his Government, and thence conducted to Constantinople, where he soon died.

After this treachery, Ali attacked with the French Artillery the *ci-devant* Venetian towns of the continent. Bucintoro fell first; Prevesa defended itself longer: the conqueror punished it for this by committing a thousand cruelties. Parga alone resisted; it is only very recently that the English have delivered up this important place.

Ali, is now more than 70 years old: he is above the middle stature, and of a very robust constitution; his excessive corpulence, without at all affecting the activity of his mind, impedes his exterior movements, and scarcely admits of his supporting the fatigues of the war. His features, regular and noble; his physiognomy calm and mild; his manners easy and seducing, present a perfect contrast with his character, which is cruel, violent, ill-natured, vindictive, and sanguinary; but which is constantly under the disguise of a brilliant and deceitful exterior. Always retaining a perfect command of his features, smiling on a man he detests, caressing him whom he has resolved to put to death, the utmost violence of his anger is only expressed by a species of convulsive laugh which contrasts horribly with the seriousness of his physiognomy. Devoid of instruction, but endowed with an excellent judgment, a mind fertile in resources, and a prodigious memory; bold in his designs, opinionated in his enterprises, active and prudent in his conduct: all these qualities are in him but the instruments of a disordered ambition, which is in itself only the thirst for gold or the love of tyranny.

Bold and insolent in prosperity, humble and mean in misfortune, he never resisted fortune, but he often subdued her, by appearing to yield to her. The ruling quality of his character is a dissimulation full of artifice and perfidy; he owes to it his elevation: it is, in his eyes, virtue, genius, glory. As for the rest, he is brave to excess; and he cannot bare his arms or body but one discovers the marks of numerous wounds. Constant in his projects, he has adopted a plan of conduct which circumstances has often obliged him to depart from, but which he has never lost sight of.

"He delighted to repeat" says M. Pouqueville, "that he was the modern Phyrus, but a Phyrus who observed his agreements with his Sovereign." Superior by his knowledge and politics to the greater part of the other Pashas, he has never ceased to keep his eyes open to what was passing in Europe; he caused the Gazettes to be translated, and was never indifferent to any of the events which have connected or divided Sovereigns. At the time when Buonaparte marched into Russia, Ali took a lively interest in all the events of the campaign: he feared equally the success of either of the belligerent powers: when he learned the entrance of the French into Moscow, he was visibly troubled; he animadverted upon the fault which the Governments of Europe had committed in not uniting these forces against the common enemy, instead of each fighting apart; and on this occasion, he quoted the fable of the bundle of sticks. Equally attentive to the catastrophes which have agitated Turkey, he has profited like a cunning man, by the weakness of the Government to extend his frontiers and occupy advantageous ports.

In fact Ali, not contented with an ephemeral empire, has taken the future into consideration, and that he may not leave his Pashalic a prey to strangers, he has early obtained the title of Pasha for his two sons—Mouctar and Veli. Formed by the example of his Father, Mouctar, the eldest, now 50 years old, is the one who has evinced the most character, and he may even be reproached with ferocity: he has studied the Turk, and from his infancy his warlike disposition has led him into battle. Veli, his brother, now 48 years old, is more versed in the Oriental languages, and appears more fit for administration than war; but he is not liked, and passes for a brutal debauchee, occupying himself more with his pleasures than his business. Mouctar has governed, as Pasha, Arta and Negropont: he is now a Pasha of two tails of Lepanta; but he resides almost habitually at Janina. Veli has filled the office of Dervengy Pasha, and within these twelve years has been Vizir in the Morea. Both of them have married daughters of the Pasha of Berat. Ali has a third son, named Sali, who is also Pasha; and besides a grandson, Mahomed, son of Veli's, 20 years old, and Pasha of Delvino, who has been brought up about his person. These two last, are yet too young to claim his attention. His eldest son alone sometimes excites his distrust, on account of his warlike and enterprising character, although he ceases not to evince towards him the utmost deference and submission. In other respects Ali, as much by the ascendancy of his character and mind, as by the habit of respect to paternal authority, which prevails in Turkey, has succeeded in preserving his empire for his two sons; and the intimacy which subsists between them and their father is such, that the three Pashalics may be considered as forming only one, under the actual authority of Ali.

Doctor Holland relates that during his stay at Janina, he was several times consulted by Ali, who engaged him as his physician; so that this Traveller had frequent and favorable opportunities of observing this personage. Ali is very old; he complained of many infirmities, and nevertheless was anxious to shew that he had still some vigour left. He was desirous of knowing some means of prolonging life, and his interlocutor having had occasion on this subject to speak of the philosopher's stone, he betrayed a singular curiosity to know if it were not really possible to make gold. He was almost invariably clothed in the same manner, and rarely arose from his sofa. His manner of receiving strangers, was made up of politeness and dignity; and he was most observant of forms when he had the greater number of

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witnesses. The subjects of conversation which he esteemed the most were those which related to general politics. Though he often permitted the ignorance common to the Turks to appear, he at times made judicious remarks, and made up for the want of instruction by infinite sagacity. He conversed with interest on the forces of England, and on its relations with America; he manifested great regret at not having travelled.

He has a remarkable passion for arms of every description, and above all, for those which are of a peculiar construction. His Seraglio is ornamented with muskets, swords, and pistols of singular workmanship. He knows how to read, and what is still more extraordinary, he knows how to write also. He freely confesses his ignorance, and seeks with avidity occasions of instruction.

The manner of Ali, in the audiences, where he renders justice, was rapid and decided. He appeared freely to seek the truth; but, judging with promptitude, rarely revised his decisions. He managed all the business himself, and his assiduity in this labour was remarkable. He occupied himself in it without relaxation, during six hours, until noon, which is his dinner hour. After this he slept for an hour, and resumed his labour till 8 o'clock, which is the hour when he sups. He is sober, and eats alone, save when he accepts invitations, or when he eats familiarly at his own house with the Greeks or Turks of his capital.

He has 300 women in his Harem, including the Dancing and Serving women. He has Greeks, Turks, Albanians, Circassians, &c. When, as a very extraordinary favour, he makes any of his Officers a present of a Female from his Harem, the latter must be very careful how he refuses such a present. His religious sentiments are very doubtful; for the rest, he mingles with them some traits of credulity and superstition.

It appears, continued Mr. Holland, that the basis of his character is artifice, bad faith, and the spirit of implacable vengeance. He is profound in the art of intrigue, and maintains spies throughout the whole of Turkey, by means of seductions and of money. He procures such detailed reports that nothing passes in the Secret Divan of which he is not informed in a few days. He spreads the reign of terror around him; and what are most to be feared on his part, are appearances of affability. Woe be to him who should receive a more than ordinarily flattering reception—this was the almost certain presage of his death. Whomsoever he hated or believed he had reason to fear, he treated him with fine words, and a few moments afterwards had his head cut off. "I have seen," says this Traveller, "the effect which results from this conduct: no repose, no security in families, they hide themselves and tremble for their lives whenever the Despot is spoken of."

Vengeance is with Ali a sinister passion, which is never extinguished; he sacrifices his enemy without pity, and pursues a family into the most remote degrees of relationship or alliance. Mr. Holland witnessed the horrible spectacle of the bones of 600 persons immolated under the eyes of the tyrant, for an offence received by his family, forty years before. He caused all the children of an Albanese, from whom he pretended to have received an injury several years before, to be massacred, and roasted alive. There remained a brother of this unfortunate Being who had escaped his search: he was entrapped by an assurance of pardon; his body was cut into pieces, and thrown into the streets of Janina. It is impossible to forget either the dreadful catastrophe of 17 Greek young women, whom he caused to be thrown alive into the lake of Janina, to revenge himself of the refusal of one of them to submit herself to his infamous desires.

Whatever may be the atrocity of character and the oppression of the government of such a man, Mr. Holland thinks that his rule has perhaps done good rather than evil in the country submitted to his administration, and this, by the annihilation of a multitude of partial tyrannies, from which he has delivered the provinces; and by the destruction of robbers who infested them. He had rendered the routes and communications very safe, besides having taken much pains in the repair of the roads and the

construction of bridges. But nothing can efface the terrible impression caused by the ferocity of such a master, and the oppressed Greeks feel all the weight of their chains. But as the military service is with the Albanese a powerful habit, and the Pasha rewards his soldiers well, he has a numerous militia, which appears to be entirely devoted to him. At the period of which we are speaking, he had with him an Albanese who had always been attached to his person, he was understood to be the confidant and executive of all his acts of vengeance. This was an intrepid soldier, who had distinguished himself in the service. This personage who never left the Seraglio, slept during the night on the floor at the door of his master's chamber, with his loaded arms by his side; this man is only 40 years old, he possessed a large fortune, and was the brother of one of the Physicians of the Pasha, his name was Athanasius Eia.

Janina or Joanina is the capital City of Epirus, and of the extended Ex-Pashalics which is governed by Ali, situated at the north-east extremity of the Elysian Fields on the west bank of the Lake Acherusia. Its view extends itself towards the mountains of Sagori, or Mount Liacmons towards Pindus, and it embraces an horizon equally delightful and majestic. It was surrendered to the Turks in the reign of Sultan Murad, by Amurat Bey in 1424; its situation, on an unequal ground, renders it capable of being made so strong a place that it would be almost impossible to blockade it, at least to construct a flotilla to cut off its communication with the eastern bank of Acherusia.

Janina, as it exists at the present day, may be divided into the upper and lower town. This last is bordered on the east by the lake Acherusia, which extends to the north. The land is mountainous, and there is a ravine fortified at the entrance by a circumvallation, with which the Pasha caused the town to be enclosed. The upper town is seated on the eastern side of the hills, which gradually decline to the south and terminate by disappearing in the neighbourhood of the road which leads to Bonila.

The line of circumvallation is at some distance, and at regular distances, are constructed towers, with cannon. Although it would require a considerable force to defend it, it would cost much blood before it was carried, particularly if it were guarded by Albanese, who like the Turks fight with desperation, provided they are covered.

Two principal streets divide Janina in its length, which is from South to North about 1,500 toises, and in its breadth, which is about 7 or 800 toises from West to East to the Peninsula which projects into the lake.

The first of these streets begins at the gate of Bonila, and leads to the Bazar, which is a vast and frequented place. The second descends to the environs of the Bazar towards the lake, and is called Jew's Street, because they are individuals of this nation who inhabit the greater part of it. At its eastern extremity is a castle fortified with guns, which commands the entrance of the Peninsula that projects into the lake, and upon which is built the Seraglio of the Pasha. This peninsula, which is very extensive and regular, is defended on the east by two towers which flank the North and South side of it, and by a third, which is erected directly to the East in the lake by which they communicate by a draw-bridge.

It is on this Peninsula and beyond the reach of every attack that Ali Pasha lives isolated from the City and his subjects, in this position which he might hold even after the enemy should have rendered himself master of the town. He lives in the middle of a troop of selected Albanians in the security which courage and fidelity yield; in this place he has collected his ammunition, his treasury, and his women. "It is there" writes Monsieur Pouqueville, "that he accumulates resources, which his provident genius will bring into use if he is ever threatened. He will go out like a giant from the shores of Acherusia, and the stranger who shall be imprudent enough to venture into the sterile passes will never again behold the shore from which he departed."

Ali governs, by the twofold means of terror and confidence, the city of Janina submitted to his will. At first the shops were shut up when he passed through the streets, and he applauded

himself for being thus dreaded, but he has found out that the love of his subjects is preferable, and has put away a part of the threatening preparations with which he surrounded himself. For the rest, he protects the commerce and industry, which he delights to draw to his dominions, and he has manifested in this respect, views which are contrasted with his habitual barbarity.

The population of Janina amounts to more than 40,000 inhabitants, who are perhaps the most industrious in all Greece. There are among them rich merchants and men who possess a degree of cultivation which is not elsewhere met with. There are even among the Greek physicians, subjects of rare merit uniting to ancient knowledge, that of the literature and science of the modern, so that it may be said that whatever is barbarous belongs only to the Albanian, and to the populace who preserve his prejudices.

The city of Janina, besides the prerogative of its growing civilization, is the *dépôt* of a considerable commerce, which extends throughout every part of Epirus. Several of its merchants are established in Rometia, Wallachia, Moldavia, Hungary, and even at Vienna.

The plain at the extremity of which Janina is built is called The Elysian Fields: they extend over a space of five leagues from north-east to south-east, and are nearly 6,000 toises in their mean diameter. Their limits are traced to the north by Mount Thomarus and its forests; towards the east, they terminate on the shore of the lake of Acherusia, and at Janina mount Cassiopea and the lesser Pindus bound there on the south, and the mountainous territory of the ancient Elea on the west. Some springs, a river which runs to the northward of the lake, and several rivulets water and fertilize this romantic and enchanting valley.

The territory which Ali Pasha possesses, comprises Epirus, Acarnania, the mountains of Pindus, Phœcidus, Dorida, Beotia, a part of Etolia, Thessaly, the western and northern parts of Macedonia, &c.

It is bordered 40 leagues to the northward of Janina by the territory of Pasha Ochrida, who is one of his creatures; at the foot of Tebileni, it borders upon the valley of Drino; and on the frontiers of the Pashalic of Scudari to the east it comprizes the country of Sagori, the mountains of Pindus, and to the west a very extended coast, of which the Chimariotes dispute with him a portion. At the mouth of Acheron, on the Gulf of Lepanto is the Pashalic of Messalonghi, which belonging to the Begler Bey of Morea. Lepanto forms a Pashalic independent of that of Ali; but the forests of Manima, the shores of Achaïous, and the country situated below Ambrassia are submitted to his authority.

Lastly, there are Albanese posts as far as Mount Olympus and near to Larissa, who speak and act in the name of Ali; so that the frontiers of the country submitted to his Government at this period might be very nearly determined by a line which setting out from Porto Pelarmo and running to the east 19° of longitude should ascend thence to the northward, following the confines of Albania and Macedonia; thence again turning to the east as far as the heights of Monastiri Pass at the foot of that town, stretching to Vardavi, should follow the right bank of this river to its source, coast the Gulf of Salonica and the Archipelago to the confines of Livadia, thence gain the head of the Gulf of Lepantus, coast this Gulf, quitting it to wind round the small Pashalic of Lepantus, design the coast of the Ionian Sea, going some leagues inland to leave out Chamouri, which extends from Porto Palermo to Prevesa, and thence should proceed to terminate at the Porto Palermo from whence it set out. For the rest, the boundaries of the country which he governs are no more fixed than those of the authority which he exercises in it. His ambition tends without ceasing to extend them, and his genius, more powerful even than his arms, overcomes them to extend his influence to remote countries.

The denomination of the countries which form the Pashalic of Ali have undergone many changes since their incorporation: the greater part of the ancient Greek names have disappeared, and in general the districts have taken their names. The

Turks as well as the Greeks mingled amongst them, keep no register of births and deaths, it is impossible therefore to give an exact account of the population submitted to the regulation of Ali Pasha. Some travellers have estimated it at 2,000,000; but this estimation appears exaggerated, and we should perhaps be nearer the truth in reckoning it at 1,500,000 inhabitants.

The revenues of Ali are composed of fiefs, customs, of ground rent, of a capitation imposed on all subjects not Mussulmans, of his flocks, and of his numerous exactions. They are generally estimated at 1,200,000 francs per annum: with this sum Ali maintains his family, pays his quit-rent to the Porte, builds fortresses, and pays his troops; who in ordinary times consist of from 6 to 8,000 Albanese, of which one fourth is cavalry. But in time of war, he can easily bring into the field 30,000 soldiers. At the time of his Expedition against Passeurend-Oglou, his army amounted to 25,000 men, since which time he has considerably improved his military establishment, and now possesses 16 bronzed hill pieces and eight field pieces, mounted and ready for service. His standing artillery is more numerous, and he has recently augmented it with 40 pieces, obtained from a Turkish frigate taken by the English; he has established a manufactory of Powder, and his Magazines are well provided with projectiles, of which the greater number, however, are of small calibre, which still does not prevent his making use of them.

His Navy is not so flourishing; it consists only of a Corvette of 16 guns, a Brig of 8, a Xebeque of 6, a Gunboat of 1, and a Bark armed with 2; all these vessels are in the Port of Prevesa; he has besides on the Lake of Janina a Xebeque of 4 guns, and two smaller vessels.

For the rest, these vessels are badly manned, and in a bad state. The pay of the Albanese soldiers is not uniform: each of them makes his conditions with his Aga, who makes his with the Pasha; and the soldier's pay varies according to the age, strength, and reputation for bravery of the individual: the highest is 15 piastres, the lowest 7, and the more ordinary 10. Upon this sum they are obliged to support, clothe, and arm themselves, in the field. They receive besides their pay, a pound and a half, per day, of bread made of Indian corn. Their arms are a musket, in general of a smaller calibre than ours, and without the bayonet; a pair of holster pistols, which they carry at the waist, with a large knife, called *Kandjar*, and, besides, a sword, which is suspended horizontally, and very low at their sides. Their muskets as well as their pistols, which they load with wooden ramrods, differ in calibre, like the cartridges, which are distributed on each expedition. They have a kind of exercise, which consists in a description of wrestling and warlike dances, calculated to develope their address and suppleness; but they are not exercised in the management of arms or in any species of military manoeuvre, but are without instruction as well as without discipline. The Cavalry is equally as destitute of it as the Infantry: it is believed to be totally useless in a country so dissected as this is; but the Albanese horses are accustomed to overcome difficulties, and it is astonishing to behold them run and gallop in places which would be inaccessible to all other Cavalry. Besides his revenues, Ali Pasha possesses a treasure which it would be difficult to value, but which must be considerable, owing to the law which he has for a very long time past adhered to, of putting by, each year, as a reserve, a portion of his receipts, which it is in his power to augment at his will by his robberies. He has also, it is said, a prodigious hoard of pearls, diamonds, of gold and silver ornaments, arising from presents which he has received, or from his depredations, and which is estimated at 20 millions. All these riches are shut up partly at Janina and partly in the ancient Seraglio of Tebeleni.

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.

Morning,.....	1 32
Evening,.....	1 56

Moon's Age, 15 Days.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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The Marlborough Controversy.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Although I cannot be expected to reply to all the objections that may be made against my Answers to the LIBERAL WHIG, yet I shall briefly notice those recently made by LELIUS and A SUBALTERN; to show that *cavils* may sometimes be substituted for *argument*, and that error, if it can be attached to my writings, creeps likewise into those of my Opponents. They have both shown much courtesy, however, in their observations, and this they will not find me disinclined to return; while at the same time I endeavour to repel their objections. There is a pleasure, indeed, seldom experienced by Controversialists, in discussing a question with persons of a temperate and liberal turn of mind; and this pleasure I feel in the fullest degree, in replying to such writers as the two here mentioned, however much I may differ from them in opinion. With respect to what LELIUS observes, I have merely to say that I have not only seen Cox's Life of Marlborough, but likewise six or seven other lives of him, included in the *very best* accounts of the war in which he commanded, and in other publications. I certainly had not the former work by me at the time of writing my letters to the LIBERAL WHIG, nor could I possibly procure it, but I had read it some time before, and cannot call to my remembrance any particular errors I have made.

Respecting what he says about the necessity of my first proving Wellington to be the greatest General of the present day, I confess I see no necessity for gratuitously discussing a point which has never yet been doubted, except in a private way. I know of no work wherein Buonaparte is exalted above Wellington, and as long as we allow ourselves to be guided by *facts*, rather than *conjectures*, I do not see how the superiority of the latter ever can be doubted. At all events those who may feel inclined to support Buonaparte's pretensions, would do well to select stronger instances of his military skill than are those chosen by LELIUS, particularly Marengo and the Campaign in France. The credit of the former victory never has been given to Buonaparte; nor did one of his arrangements, or one of his actions during the battle, evince the least degree of superior Generalship. The battle was lost when Desaix restored it, and lost by Buonaparte's unskilfulness. The manner in which he conducted the Campaign in France has been so much objected to by many competent judges, that it will scarcely be allowed sufficient, *per se*, to establish his military reputation; but the most decided proof of Buonaparte's inferiority, and military deficiency, is the fact of his never having been able to recover himself after a defeat, or to bring forward adequate resources when good fortune forsook him. Wellington herein far exceeds him; and an adverse turn in war is the best and *only* criterion by which to try the abilities of a General. No man is entitled to be called a *perfect* General who has not given proofs of genius and fortitude by extricating himself from difficulties, and bearing up against adversity; and Buonaparte's three famous flights from Egypt, Russia, and Waterloo, will for ever cut off his claim to be called either a great General, or a great man.

Neither will LELIUS's assertion that, by my line of argument, both Gustavus Adolphus, and the Duke of Parma, may be placed above Hannibal and Caesar, prove a whit more tenable; because such is by no means my line of argument. What I said evidently was that, owing to the progressive improvement in the art of war, it required more military knowledge *now*, to place a soldier at the head of his profession (in point of perfection) than it did in earlier times; and this I still maintain. Had either Caesar or Hannibal been alive now, I never doubted that they would be the greatest Generals of the age, because the same genius which caused them to excel all of their own times, would have stood them in like stead at present; but still, the same degree of skill was not actually required (particularly by Caesar) to enable him to conquer his inexperienced enemies, as was necessary to insure success to Wellington and Marlborough.

LELIUS denies that the greatest General of one age is inferior to the greatest of a preceding one, but I entirely disagree with him; for in all arts and sciences, which *progressively improve*, he who excels in one, must be a more perfect professor, and know more of it, than he who stood at the head of the same profession several centuries before: when, comparatively speaking, it was in its infancy. I do not consider the *proportionate*, but the *actual*, merits of two Commanders; and while we adhere to this latter mode of reasoning we cannot possibly exalt the Generals of antiquity above those of modern days: for the same degree of knowledge and skill was not requisite to, and therefore not attained by, the former heroes, as their modern rivals. Cæsar conquered Britain with ease, but will any one say that, with the *same degree* of knowledge and Generalship, he would conquer it again *now*? The art of war has been so improved that those who in former ages were most consummate in it, would now be reckoned but *Tyros*, if they could again come suddenly among us. Formerly the General depended as much upon the physical power of his army, as upon his own skill; but now that power is not even a secondary consideration.

According to LELIUS the greatest General of the earliest times (a Savage Chief perhaps) is equal to Wellington, and Buonaparte, merely because he was superior to all of his own time! Why this will not bear to be argued upon—as well might their greatest Philosopher be raised above Sir Isaac Newton, or the first Seamen of Carthage or Tyre be equalled to our most superior Navigators. Who would ever think of placing DULLIUS, and the other Roman Admirals, who conquered the Carthaginian fleets, on a par with Nelson, or any other of our Naval Heroes; and yet the thing might be justified by the mode of reasoning adopted by LELIUS in support of the claims of Cæsar. With regard to the writer who signs himself A SUBALTERN, I have merely to observe that he seems to have misunderstood me entirely, in what I said of the *rapid rise* of Marlborough. I never said that he rose *more* rapidly than Wellington, as, by contrasting their several promotions my Respondent seems to think. Thy *both* rose with unusual rapidity, and all I did was to *account* for Marlborough's speedy rise to the top of his profession. After all it appears, from the SUBALTERN's own *precis*, that from the date of their entering the Army as Ensigns, till that of their promotion to the rank of Lieutenant General, there was only a difference of *one year*! and their subsequent promotion to Commander in Chief depended entirely on there being a war or not, and on the politics of the day; therefore it cannot be taken into the account; but it is certain that during his scholarship, Wellington saw just as much and as arduous service as Marlborough did. Another thing, which the SUBALTERN does not seem to be aware of, is the great difference between the rank of Brigadier in the present day and in the time of Marlborough. It was then really a post of consequence, whereas now it is merely a temporary rank conferrable upon a Major.

The SUBALTERN doubts my knowledge of Marlborough's life and actions from my having talked of his "*rapid rise*" in his profession; and I will bow to his decision as soon as he demonstrates that the attainment of the rank of Lieutenant General, after twenty two years, is a *tardy* sort of promotion. A person who comes forward to correct another, should most cautiously avoid all errors himself; but since the SUBALTERN has not done this, I beg leave to tell him that Marlborough's promotion to Captain, was *not* in consequence of services performed on the Continent, but *prior* to those services; and it would be more accurate to state that he was made a Lieutenant Colonel in consequence of his gallantry at the siege of *Maestricht*. In conclusion, I beg the SUBALTERN to remember that promotion in the days of James, and William, was a very different thing to what it now is; and that a Captain of Grenadiers *then* was reckoned as *fine* a thing, and required as much interest to procure it, as a Lieutenant Colonel *now*; so that *comparatively* speaking, Marlborough's rise was infinitely more rapid than Wellington's; and *actually* about equal to it,

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

AN OFFICER;

Official Document.

ADDRESS OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN MUNRO, RESIDENT AT THE COURT OF TRAVANCORE, TO THE GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I have the pleasure to send you a copy of an Address of Lieutenant-Colonel John Munro, Resident at the Court of Travancore, to the Government of Fort St. George, on the State of Christianity in that Residency, with the exception of one or two short passages, and beg that you will give it a place in your most useful and interesting Paper.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

**A LOVER OF THE FRIENDS OF MANKIND,
OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY, AND A FREE PRESS.**

To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

SIR,

The state of Christianity in the territories of Travancore and Cochin, appears to claim the attention of the British Government.

The History of Malabar suggests important reflections regarding the diffusion of Foreign Religions in India. That country, from the most remote eras, has continued under the government of Native Princes, remarkable for their devoted attachment to the Hindoo Faith: yet the Mahomedan and Christian Religions have prevailed to a great extent, in all the Provinces of Malabar; and, in some of them, the former religion has nearly supplanted the original creed of the people.

This fact deserves mature attention.

When the Portuguese discovered India, the dominions of the Zamorin, ruled by a superstitious Hindoo Prince, were full of Mahomedans; and that class of the population is now considered to exceed greatly in number, all the other descriptions of people in the Company's Province of South Malabar. This extraordinary progress of the Mahomedan Religion does not appear, with the exception of the short and troubled rule of the Mysore Princes, to have been either assisted by the countenance of the Government, or obstructed by the jealousy of the Hindoos. Its rapid propagation under a series of Hindoo Princes demonstrates the toleration, or rather the marked indifference, manifested by the Hindoos to the quiet and peaceable diffusion of religious opinions and practices different from their own. A change occurred, indeed, during the Government of Tippoo Sultan; but its consequences support, rather than invalidate, the conclusion which I have stated. His open attack on the Religion of the Hindoos was resisted with the same spirit and firmness, which they displayed in opposing his invasions of their Civil and Political Rights: and the fierce contests which ensued, produced only a temporary animosity between the Mahomedans and the Nairs; for, since the transfer of the government to the English, the mutual enmity of those sects seems to have subsided, and the Mahomedan Religion has resumed its progress without apparently exciting a sentiment of jealousy on the part of the Hindoos. The sovereignty of the Mussulmans in Mysore was established on the ruins of Hindoo States—was maintained, in comparison with the general population of the country, by a handful of Mahomedans—and was exercised in a spirit of avowed proselytism; yet it does not appear that these encroachments on the religious rights of the Hindoos ever encountered any serious opposition.

A survey of the History of all the States in India presents nearly the same result. Everywhere, the patient apathy of the Hindoos toward the zealous propagation of the Mahomedan Religion by the ordinary means of conversion, has been conspicuous. As in Malabar, the open invasion of the political, civil, and religious rights of the people has caused resistance; but the peaceful progress of conversion has been regarded with indifference and calmness by the Hindoos: and it seems to be only in cases of open force, in cases particularly wherein political are combined with religious motives, that their attention is attracted to the propagation of foreign religions.

The same inferences are suggested by the History of Christianity in Malabar. Under a race of superstitious and bigoted Hindoo Princes, amidst a people peculiarly attached to the creed of Brahmans, a few Missionaries from Syria established the Christian Religion, to an extent that attracts our attention and wonder. La Croze, in his very interesting History of Christianity in India, describes the state of the Syrians, a few years after the first arrival of the Portuguese, in the following language:—"The authority of the Syrian Bishops extends to all temporal

and spiritual matters. They are the natural Judges of all the Civil and Ecclesiastical Causes, within their Diocese. In virtue of their privileges, which are never contested, the Pagan Princes and Judges have no concern with them, excepting only in criminal causes. The Syrians, besides the fixed tribute which they pay to their Princes, are required only to furnish a certain number of troops during their wars, which are neither frequent nor of long duration. The Diocese of the Syrian Bishop contains, at present, more than one thousand five hundred Churches, and as many towns and villages. This great number must continue to augment; as the priests are not engaged to celibacy, and as there are no monks or nuns among them. The men always walk armed: some with fuses, of which they know perfectly well the use; others, with spears; but the greatest number carry only a naked sword in the right hand, and a shield in the left. They are carefully instructed in the use of arms, from their eighth to their twenty-fifth year, and are excellent hunters and warriors. The more Christians a Pagan Prince has in his dominions, the more he is feared and esteemed. It is on this account, as well as on that of their fidelity and strict attachment to truth in every thing, that the Princes cherish and countenance them so much. In virtue of privileges granted by Sharen Permant, former Emperor of Malabar, the Syrian Christians take precedence of the Nairs, who are the nobility of the country; and they are second in rank only to the Brahmans, for whom the Kings themselves manifest an extraordinary veneration. The Christians, pursuant to the laws of the country, are the protectors of the silversmiths, brass-founders, carpenters, and smiths. The Pagans, who cultivate the palm-trees, form a militia under the Christians. If a Pagan of any of these tribes should receive an insult, he has immediately recourse to the Christians, who procure a suitable satisfaction. The Christians depend directly on the Prince or his Minister, and not on the Provincial Governors. If any thing is demanded from them contrary to their privileges, the whole unite immediately for general defence. If a Pagan strike one of the Christians, he is put to death on the spot, or forced, himself, to bear to the Church of the places an offering of a gold or silver hand, according to the quality of the person affronted. In order to preserve their nobility, the Christians never touch a person of inferior caste, not even a Nair. In the roads and streets, they cry out from a distance, in order to receive precedence from passengers; and if any one, even a Nair, should refuse this mark of respect, they are entitled to kill him on the spot. The Nairs, who are the nobility and warriors in Malabar, respect the Syrian Christians very highly, and consider it a great honour to be regarded as their brothers. The privileges of the Syrian Christians are so numerous, that it would be tiresome to describe them all; but a few will be stated, of so important a nature, that they place them, in some measure, on an equality with their sovereigns. It is permitted only to the Brahmans and them, to have inclosed porches before their houses. They are authorised to ride and travel on elephants; a distinction accorded only to them and the heirs of the crown. They sit in presence of the King and his Ministers, even on the same carpet; a privilege granted to Ambassadors only. The King of Paroor, having wished, during the last century, to extend this privilege to the Nairs, the Christians declared war against him, and obliged him to restore affairs to their former state."

This extraordinary advancement of the Christian and Mahomedan Religions, in a country governed and inhabited by Hindoos, furnishes a striking and singular illustration of the insensibility of that people toward any exertions for the introduction of a foreign religion, that are conducted with moderation and temper. Even when these exertions are supported by the Government of the State, as they were in Mysore, they do not seem calculated to rouse the jealousy or opposition of the Hindoos, unless carried to extremes, and combined with attacks on their other rights.

The more the state of society among the Natives in India is explored, the more reasons will appear to convince an impartial mind, of the disregard felt and manifested by all classes of the people toward the dissemination of religious opinions foreign to their own—a result occasioned by the great variety of religions, which have prevailed for ages in that country. The followers of Shiva and Vishnoo display no animosity toward each other; and both appear to regard with unconcern the rites and the progress of the Mahomedan Faith; while the believers in the Koran view with silent contempt the idolatrous practices of the Hindoos: and this admixture of various and opposite religious opinions and usages in the same community, has necessarily familiarized and reconciled the minds of the people to the appearance of systems of divine worship different from their own. In Travancore, Christians, Jews, Mahomedans, and Hindoos, perform their respective religious duties, without molestation from one another: Churches, Synagogues, Mosques, and Pagodas, are intermingled: and this system of toleration, so far as the sentiments of the PEOPLE are concerned, may be discovered in every part of India.

The facts which I have described seem to authorise the conclusion—a conclusion, which, I am convinced, will be further confirmed the more the subject is examined and studied—that whatever impediments

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may be opposed to the progress of Christianity will proceed from political and not from religious jealousy. They who cherish sentiments of hostility against the British Power, and hopes of its instability, will, of course, decry any measures calculated to unite the interest of a body of the people with its permanency. That power is exposed to greater danger from secret conspiracy, than from open resistance; and this danger must increase with the extension of the British Possessions, which augments the disproportion in numbers, already so immense, between the rulers and the subjects. But, in establishing a body of native subjects connected with the mass of the people by a community of language, occupations, and pursuits, and united to the British Government by the stronger ties of religion and mutual safety, ample means would be acquired of procuring information of the proceedings of the people, and of all machinations against the British Power. In the course of time, still greater advantages would arise; and the support of a respectable body of Christian Subjects would contribute to strengthen the British Power, in those junctures of commotion and difficulty, which must be expected to occur in a country like India, that has been in a state of revolution for ages. The introduction of Christianity, in some of the Provinces, may be attended with delays; but, in Travancore and Cochin, there is already a numerous body of Christian Inhabitants, who, with moderate assistance and encouragement from the British Government, will firmly attach themselves to its interests, and may prove of material service in supporting its power.

The Syrian Christians, from a concurrence of misfortunes, have miserably fallen from their former estate; and very few traces of the high character which they once possessed can be now discovered.

The Portuguese forced them into a junction with the Roman-Catholic Church; a measure, which, in consequence of the corrupt doctrines and licentious lives of their new associates, occasioned the loss, at the same time, of their religion and morals, and of the privileges and estimation that they enjoyed in the country.

After a union with the Roman Catholics of about sixty years, a portion of the Syrian Christians, no longer able to endure the oppressions of their Ecclesiastical Superiors, resumed their independence, under the conduct of an Archdeacon, named Thomas. Amounting to 10,000 persons with 53 Churches, they have continued separate from the Roman Catholics, and constitute the body, denominated by us, Syrian, and by the people of the country, new Christians.

But the greatest number of the Syrian Christians are still attached to the Roman Catholic Religion; and, with the converts from other tribes, to that religion, form a population of nearly 150,000 persons, divided under three Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions—the Archbishopric of Cranganore, the Bishopric of Cochin and Quilon, and the Bishopric of Verapoly. The two former are suffragans of the Archbishop of Goa, by whom the Prelates and inferior Clergy are appointed. The other is composed of Carmelite Friars, and receives its Bishops and Clergy from the Propaganda Society at Rome. After the suppression of the Jesuits, the greatest number of the Roman-Catholic Churches in Travancore and Cochin were attached to Goa, and were supplied with Portuguese Clergy from that place; but the Institution at Verapoly has gradually and unjustly encroached upon the others, and now exercises a more extensive jurisdiction than either of them.

The Dutch, while in possession of Cochin, endeavoured to extend their political influence, by affording decided protection to the Roman-Catholic Christians, especially to those dependent on Verapoly; and those Christians, in consequence of the friendship of the Dutch, their own numbers, and the presence of European Prelates, enjoyed a certain portion of civil rights. But their morals were singularly depraved. Their Clergy—corrupt, licentious, and ignorant—kept their flocks in utter darkness; no proper religious instruction was afforded to the people: the circulation of the Bible was resisted; superstitious and idolatrous ceremonies formed the greatest part of their religious worship; converts were eagerly received from the outcasts of Society; and in a Country, notorious for the dissoluteness, immorality, and vices of the people, the Roman Catholics were pre-eminent in crimes. Bartolomeo, who was long attached to Verapoly, affords a strong, though reluctant testimony of the refractory and licentious conduct of the Roman-Catholic Christians in the vicinity of Cochin; and the gang-robberies, which frequently occur in the neighbourhood of this town, are almost always found to have been committed by Roman-Catholic Christians.

The Roman Catholics are ready to avail themselves of the British Protection, for the security of their rights; but, according to the best judgment that I have been able to form, are very far from being really attached to the British Interests and Power.

Many of the Roman Catholics, and particularly of the Syrians attached to them, sensible of the state of ignorance to which they were condemned by the arts of their Priests, have manifested a disposition to join the proper Syrians; and I believe that no great difficulty would be experienced, in converting to the Protestant Religion the greatest part of the Roman Catholics in Travancore and Cochin—an event extremely desirable, on every ground of policy, humanity, and religion.

The real Syrian Christians, on their separation from the Roman Catholics, were exposed to powerful enemies and serious dangers. The Roman Catholics, regarding their secession as an act both of apostasy and rebellion, persecuted them with unrelenting animosity. The Princes of the Country, seeing their defenceless state, considered them as fit subjects for plunder and insult; they were destitute of religious books, Pastors, and instruction: they had lost, in their union with the Jesuits, the pure system of religion and morals, and the high spirit by which they were formerly distinguished; and the Dutch, whose policy was marked with perfidy and meanness, abandoned them to their fate.

The virtuous Historian of Christianity in India expresses, in subdued terms, his indignation at the conduct of the Dutch. Even the Historian of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire commiserates the misfortunes of the Syrian Christians; and, after describing their emancipation from the power of the Jesuits, states—"The trading companies of Holland and England are the friends of toleration; but if oppression be less mortifying than contempt, the Christians of St. Thomas have reason to complain of the cold and silent indifference of their brethren of Europe."

The Syrians were exposed to still greater calamities, in the conquest of their country by the Rajah of Travancore. The blighting influence of that despotic and merciless government was felt by them, in the most aggravated degree; and they were reduced to the lowest state of poverty and depression.

Notwithstanding the misfortunes which they have suffered, and the disadvantages of their situation, they still retain, however, some of the virtues by which they were formerly distinguished. They are remarkable for mildness, rude simplicity of character, honesty, and industry: their pursuits are confined to agriculture and trade; and, although they have lost the high station and elevated sentiments, which they once possessed; yet they are still respected, on account of their integrity and rectitude of conduct.

I have afforded, since my first arrival in Travancore, the most decided protection to all classes of the Christians, and in particular to the Syrians. I experienced, however, some difficulty, for a time, in improving the condition of the Syrian Christians, in consequence of internal dissensions among themselves. Their Bishop, consecrated in an irregular manner, and rather unqualified for his office, was opposed by a large party among the Clergy and the people; and this division prevented them from co-operating in the execution of any plan for the good of the whole. I was able, however, with the aid of the Ramban Joseph, a man eminent for piety and zeal, to make arrangements for erecting a College at Cotym, a central situation, for the education of the Clergy and Syrian Youths in general. The death of the Bishop, and the elevation of the Ramban to his office, removed some of the impediments that had opposed the measures which appeared to be requisite for the general amelioration of the Syrian Community.

But the assistance of intermediate agents was essentially necessary to the success of those measures; for the Syrians themselves were lamentably deficient in knowledge, energy, and ability. The arrival of two respectable Missionaries, Messrs. Bailey and Norton, supplied the want to which I have adverted; and Mr. Bailey was attached to the College, with the fullest approbation of the Bishop, and the whole of the Syrians.

The Bishop Joseph, worn out with age and abstinence, lived long enough only to afford the warmest testimonies of satisfaction and joy at the improvement of his Church: and he has been succeeded in office by two Bishops, Mar Philoxenus and Mar George, the former being too infirm to discharge alone the duties of his office.

Mr. Bailey, in strict and most confidential union with the Bishop, has proceeded to carry into gradual effect some of the arrangements requisite for the improvement of the Syrian Church. The Scriptures have been nearly translated from the Syrian into the Malayalam Language, principally at the expense of the Calcutta Bible Society. A plan for the education of the Clergy and the course of discipline and instruction to be observed at the College, has been established. The Syrian Clergy have been encouraged to marry; and three have availed themselves of the offer. Information of the errors and abuses, the remnants of Popery, still existing in the several Churches, has been gradually acquired, with a view to the progressive reformation of those evils at a proper season: and a mutual solicitude is displayed, in the most cordial and affectionate manner, by Mr. Bailey and the principal Syrian Clergy, to advance the re-establishment of Divine Worship among them, in strict conformity to the Scriptures.

In several conferences which I had with the Bishop and Syrian Clergy, during a visit which I made to Cotym in December last, they expressed with warmth their satisfaction and gratitude, at the course of measures adopted to enlighten and restore the Syrian Church.

The temporal situation of the Syrians has also been materially improved. I have frequently taken occasion to bring them to the notice of her Highness the Rannee of Travancore; and her intelligent, liberal,

and ingenious mind has always appeared to feel a deep interest in their history, misfortunes, and character. She is aware of the attention excited to their situation in Europe; and her anxiety to manifest the sincerity of her attachment to the British Nation has formed, I believe, an additional motive for the kindness and generosity which she has uniformly displayed toward the Syrians. She has appointed a considerable number of them to Public Offices; and lately presented the sum of 20,000 rupees to the College of Cotym, as an endowment for its support. The Syrians are most grateful for her goodness; and cherish, in no ordinary degree, the sentiments of affection and respect towards her person, that are entertained by every class of her subjects.

But the liberal protection and support of the British Government is essentially requisite, for the restoration and prosperity of the Syrian Church and Community. The donation of Her Highness the Rannee, when vested in the purchase of land, will provide for the maintenance of the College; but a separate provision is indispensably necessary for the support of the Parochial Clergy, officiating at the several Churches. They derive, at present, a precarious and inadequate support from contributions; in themselves exceedingly objectionable, and paid with considerable difficulty by the people. The abolition of these contributions, a measure indispensable to the reformation of the Church, would deprive the Clergy of subsistence, and there is no other local means of providing for their maintenance. The accompanying Report* from Mr. Bailey describes the present mode of supporting the Syrian Clergy; and shews that a separate allowance of fifteen or twenty rupees per month, for each Church, would be fully sufficient for the maintenance of its Ministers, and would admit of the discontinuance of the system of contributions which is, in many points of view, a Roman-Catholic usage. A more approved and legitimate mode of maintaining the Clergy by their parishioners might certainly be devised; but the poverty of the Syrians disables them from bearing the expense of a direct assessment for that purpose.

If the liberality of the British Government should supply an allowance of twenty rupees per month for every Syrian Church, the expense would little exceed 1000 rupees—a sum considerably less than the salaries of two Military Chaplains; and an important benefit would be thereby derived to the public interests, from the prosperity, gratitude, and permanent attachment of a respectable body of people.

That allowance, or at most a very small increase of it, would also admit of the maintenance of a Parish School, for the instruction of Children, at every Church—an arrangement of the utmost utility to the general improvement of the Syrians; and, combined with the College, sufficient to provide for the complete education both of the Clergy and Laity. These measures would soon restore the Syrians to the high station which they formerly occupied. Education and knowledge would advance their industry and exertions; and the British Government would receive, in their grateful and devoted attachment on every emergency, the reward due to its benevolence and wisdom. Other advantages would also occur. The Roman Catholics, and especially the Syrian Communities still united to them, would be induced, by the great melioration of the religious and temporal state of the Syrians, to join them; and, in the course of a few years, the conversion to the Protestant Religion of the greatest portion of the Roman Catholics on this coast, would take place.

It may be useful to direct the attention of the Resident to these views; and to authorise the mild exercise of his influence, in persuading the Syrian Congregations still connected with the Roman-Catholic Church to rejoin their ancient brethren, the proper Syrians.

The English Missionaries, recently arrived in Travancore, have behaved with prudence, and are respected and loved by the people; and the further resort of respectable Missionaries to that country will be productive of eminent advantage.

A careful observation of the people of India leads me to expect, that the Protestant Religion will make a rapid progress among them. No rational man will change his religion, excepting from forcible reasons; and the pageantry, idolatrous appearances, and extraordinary mysteries of the Roman-Catholic Faith, are calculated to revolt a mind already disgusted and disposed to change by the idolatries and incongruities of the Hindoo Worship.

The Natives of India still retain an admiration of excellence, and a high veneration for virtue and sanctity; and the purity of morals, sublimity of doctrine, and extraordinary adaptation to the condition of mankind, of the Protestant Religion, are eminently calculated, when understood and when their effects are seen, to engage converts.

The small Protestant Community formed by Mr. Ringletanbe in the South of Travancore, although still in a state of infancy, is extremely respected. Its neophytes are called the Vadahars, or Persons of the Book; and it receives more proselytes than all the other sects of Christianity in Travancore.

* It was not thought necessary to print M. Bailey's Report here.

The British Nation possesses, in the facility of diffusing knowledge, important means of extending the Protestant Religion; and a moderate degree of encouragement, by the Government, will essentially contribute to the furtherance of that end. In Travancore, the means are already prepared; and little difficulty will be found, in directing their application to the most salutary and important purposes. Nor are those endeavours likely to encounter opposition from the PEOPLE. Some learned Brahmins, with whom I have conversed on religious topics, have repeated verses from the Vedas and Shasters, inculcating the most absolute toleration of all religions; and have affirmed that the free exercise of any religion whatever can be impeded only by the jealousy and passions of Princes; and I quote their opinions, because they correspond with all the result of my own observation.

I forward, herewith, Reports which I received, in 1813, from the principal Ecclesiastical Authorities in Travancore, in answer to Queries circulated to them. I regret that the translations of them, made by Native Writers, are extremely inaccurate; and that I have been prevented, by an earlier departure from Travancore than I had anticipated, from correcting and enlarging the documents.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very obedient humble Servant,

Quilon, 30th March, 1818.

JOHN MUNRO, Resident.

Nautical Notices.

On the morning of the 7th instant, between the hours of 7 and 8 A. M. the Ship *Glorious*, Captain Patterson, in attempting to haul to the Company's Moorings in the Hooghly, unfortunately got foul and partly athwart hawse of the American Ship *Integrity* and the Portuguese Brig *Vigenti*, in which dangerous situation she lay until six in the evening, (every exertion having been made to get her clear without effect), when, by some uncontrollable accident, the *Glorious* changed her situation for one of much greater peril, by swinging with her stern to the eastward, and falling athwart hawse of the American Ship *Pacific* and the Brig *Palmer*. The Ship was now in a most dangerous situation, athwart hawse of a tier of shipping, and borne on them with great violence from the rapidity of the current in the very height of the freshes. By great exertion, however, and with the assistance of part of the Crew of the *Pacific*, who went on board to assist in getting her clear of the tier, and towards which they worked most willingly and cheerfully from half past seven till nine, they had the satisfaction of seeing the *Glorious* secured in safety. Too much praise cannot be given to the exertions of the American Officers and Sailors, for their prompt and ready assistance in the hour of need, and for the zeal and alacrity with which they flew to assist their Brother Tars when in danger.

Marriages.

On the 6th instant, by the Reverend D. Corrie, John Williams, Esq. of the Country Service, to Miss Charlotte Sophia Barber.

At Madras, on the 21st ultimo, at St. George's Church, by the Reverend Mr. Thomas, Lieutenant Colonel Henry Charles Dickens, Commanding His Majesty's 34th Regiment, to Dorothea, eldest Daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Dalrymple, C. B. of the Madras Artillery.

Deaths.

On the 7th instant, Mrs. A. S. Harris, aged 25 years.

On the 5th instant, of the Epidemic Cholera, aged 27 years and 5 months, Captain James A. Fisher, formerly of the Country Service; deeply regretted by a numerous circle of friends and acquaintances.

At the Presidency, on the 1st instant, Mr. Peter Crawford Conran.

At Chinsurah, on the 4th instant, Master Henry Van't Hart, aged 6 years and 2 months.

Lately, at Futtighur, Solomon Hill, Esq. many years a respectable inhabitant at that Station;—leaving a large Family unprovided for to lament the loss of a good Father, an indulgent Husband, and a warm Friend.

On the 27th ultimo, at Buryoll, aged 35 years and 11 months, Charles Chapman, Esq. Judge and Magistrate of Jessore, and acting at Backergunge—deeply and sincerely regretted. In private life, his conduct emanated from a warm heart, and a disposition naturally kind and sincere. In his public capacity, perhaps no man was ever more universally regretted—certainly no man ever filled his station with more inflexible integrity and constant vigilance. On more than one occasion a wise and discerning Government selected him for difficult duties, requiring energy and talent, which in him were eminently united, and its unqualified approbation rewarded the zeal with which he ever discharged the arduous duties of his office.

At Bombay, on the 13th ultimo, Captain J. S. Ramford, of the 24 Battalion 10th Regiment of Native Infantry.

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Road to Ruin.

The House was but thinly attended on Friday to witness the performance of *The Road to Ruin*. It is said that this Comedy is esteemed one of the most successful of the Modern Drama, and some parts of it are indeed admirable; but there are others that we think intolerably dull and heavy, and even as a whole we consider the Piece far less interesting than many that have been played here even in the present Season.

We give insertion to a Letter of a Correspondent, who appears to have been delighted with the whole, and it is fair to presume that many partook of this pleasure in the same degree; yet we are not ashamed to confess that there were scenes, and some long ones too, which we felt to be tedious in the extreme, and of which the House generally seemed to form the same opinion, if we might safely infer this, from the entire absence, at those periods, of all attention to what was passing on the Stage.

The story of the Piece must be too familiar to our Readers to render any thing necessary to be said on that head:—the characters were cast in the most judicious manner, each having the part for which he was most peculiarly fitted. At the head of these stood the wealthy Banker and doating Father, *Mr. Dorton*, than which it is difficult to imagine any thing more perfect. We have seen this Amateur in all the various characters which he has at different periods undertaken, and we have thought them all excellent; but we confess that in *Mr. Dorton* he appeared to us almost to surpass himself. The mixture of respect for integrity, and tenacious regard for character, with a hatred of the vices and an unconquerable fondness for the person of his Son, and all the tumult of conflicting feelings to which this incessantly gave rise, was as like to reality as any acting could possibly be, and left nothing to desire. There was besides a uniformity in this perfection which renders it difficult to select any one portion or scene as superior to another, except inasmuch as the interest of such scenes depended on the Author. All appeared to us equally well done, whether in the renunciation of his Son, the presenting his blunderbuss against him from the balcony, his remonstrances with him on his folly, the bursts of fondness that escaped amid his anger, the injunctions to *Mr. Smith* not to supply him with money, the repentant Good Night denied yet ultimately given to his Child, the irritation at *Mr. Sulkey's* frankness, the distant conversation with the *Widow Warren*, the scene of fond yet heart-rending joy and reconciliation in the Park where the Duel was to have taken place, when the Father, overpowered with feeling, falls on his Son's neck to weep and to embrace him, his knees tottering and his utterance choked with rapture,—all, all appeared to us as perfect as if they were scenes of real life, and not the mimic representation of a Stage.

Harry Dorton, the generous and warm-hearted yet profligate and thoughtless Spendthrift, was supported throughout with the same uniform excellence; and we should doubt whether either of the London Theatres could at any time produce a Father and Son more adequate to fill the characters of the *Dortons* than these veterans, props, and ornaments of our Indian Stage.

Mr. Sulky was in the hands of a *Debutant*, who represented with great fidelity the stern and unbending honesty of a Citizen Trader, who had been reared from childhood in habits of frugality, integrity, and plain dealing; and though some peculiarity of accent rendered the delivery of some parts less agreeable to the ear than they would otherwise have been, the conception of the character appeared just in all its parts, and its delineation accurate and faithful. Such acquisitions to the Stage cannot fail to add not only to its strength but its respectability.

Goldfinch is so extravagant a character, that we are not competent to pronounce whether the representation of it was faultless or otherwise. We have seen such men as *Old Dorton*, *Young Dorton*, and *Sulky* in real life, and can therefore speak as to the general merits of their portraits; but such a being as *Goldfinch* has never yet crossed our path, though perhaps there

are such in existence. Yet in our present ignorance of any thing so highly coloured, we can only say we thought the character both extravagantly drawn and extravagantly acted. The *Dick Dashall* of the same Gentleman, though a character of the same class, was far more chaste and within bounds, and the success with which that was performed leads us to conclude that the Author was here as much in fault as the Actor.

Mr. Milford was also in the hands of a Gentleman, new to the Chowringhee Stage. The character is one of little interest, but such as it was it appeared to us to be in very good hands, and was made as interesting as the part itself admits of being made. A higher range of character would perhaps bring out qualities which this could not call into action, and we shall be glad to see the Chowringhee Stage strengthened every season by accessions that promise so well.

The Female characters were well sustained throughout. The *Widow Warren* was excellent; and no one, we are persuaded, who did not know the fact, would have supposed the Widow to have been a Gentleman. The disguise was so complete, that features, figure, dress, air, gait, walk, and even the voice, partook of an effeminacy which was calculated to deceive all strangers at least. There is certainly no one on the Female List of the Corps, that could do the *Widow Warren's* character so well; and without this Gentleman, it would be difficult to get up many of the Pieces, in which this description of Female character is required. *Mrs. Francis* in *Jenny* was very respectable; the part scarcely admitted of her being more. *Mrs. Neave* appeared but for a few minutes, and then in a part of no interest, and ill-dressed: she deserves to be seen to much more advantage. The part of *Sophia* was supported altogether with greater spirit, vivacity, ease, and accuracy, than any thing we have ever seen from the same hands. It appeared to us to be without fault:—the Author may have made this young Lady of 17, though from Gloucestershire, perhaps too innocently simple and unacquainted with the world. Young Ladies turned of 17, from other counties, at least in the present day, are far better informed on the subject of which *Sophia* insisted every girl ought to remain ignorant till she was 21. Be this as it may, the simplicity was admirably maintained, the part most correctly conceived, and the execution not at all inferior to the conception. The first interview with *Dorton*, where she complains of no Valentine having been sent to her, her subsequent receipt of this desired token, and lastly the destruction of this precious trifle amid the tears and reproaches which she shed and uttered as she tore it in pieces before her faithless and distracted lover, were all as fine pieces of acting in this class as one could desire to see.

Notwithstanding all these subjects of justly deserved praise, the Piece was on the whole dull, and went off heavily. The causes of this were perhaps mixed, and difficult to be accurately traced. First of all, we should think that the Stage, having unfortunately (for it at least) lost one of its brightest ornaments and most powerful attractions in the retirement of *Miss Williams*, never can be so great an object of interest without her as with her. There were many whose chief and almost sole motive in visiting the Theatre used to be the hope of seeing this admirable Actress, whose value, like that of other blessings, was never sufficiently felt till deprived of it; these, therefore, will now remain at home. Secondly, the thinness of the House, whether from this or other causes, is always detrimental to Performances going off well, as neither the aspect of the House nor of the Stage is ever so cheerful, nor are the Performers or Auditors ever in such good spirits, as when the House is full. And thirdly, there were some prosing scenes in this *Road to Ruin*, which were sufficient to tire the most patient spectator, and which, added to the other causes already enumerated, made the whole dull and heavy, notwithstanding the undeniable excellence and interest of many of the parts.

CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

BURY		CALCUTTA.		SELL
7	12	New Loans,		7 8
11	8	Ditto Remittable,		11 4

Road to Ruin.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

"VIDEAMUS QUI VIR SIES."

SIR,

Having lately witnessed the first style of acting in the world, and I need not observe that that was at Covent Garden, I was last night at Chowringhee most agreeably surprized at the excellent manner in which the various parts in the Comedy of the *Road to Ruin* were sustained, I could not have expected so much feeling and such a comprehensive knowledge of the character which seemed to be possessed by the different Amateurs, even beyond the spirit of the acting, and that indeed is saying much; nor could I but feel a superior interest when I saw such men, devoting themselves so ardently to the amusement and recreation of others. The characters of "Old Dornton," "Young Dornton," "Sulky," "Silky," "Jacob," "Goldsmith," "Widow Warren," and "Sophia," were most happily sustained, and evinced considerable powers of acting; some touches were wrought to a high degree of excellence, and of these I need only mention the meeting of the Father and Son in the Park; the scene where Sophia exposes the grand mama's characters to her Lover, and his immediate revolt; and the constant opposition between a virtuous and a "rakish" "fashionable" feeling, which rages in the breast of young Dornton. The starchy integrity of Sulky, and the mean and despicable avarice of Silky, were amongst the finest efforts of their acting, and must ever do them honor.

If the Veteran Amateurs who have so long obliged and delighted the Public, deserved so much praise, what shall I say for the Young Amateurs, who are so anxious to perfect themselves; they certainly promise well, and if they will only divest themselves of every species of Stage Art and Habit, and cherish Nature and her fascinating Graces, every thing may be expected. Man can long sustain, (and never agreeably so) any part, with a hired voice, and an assumed gait, neither can either be pleasing; yet it would be the height of ingratitude even to mention such slight aberrations, if it was not known, that men who can so good humouredly devote their time and abilities to the service of others will ever be foremost to distinguish between wanton abuse, and the politeness inseparable from friendly and sincere advice; neither can the Public be ever sufficiently grateful for the delightful recreation which the public spirit and individual talent of a few "choice spirits" has gathered for them; and in the next opening of the Theatre, if I am in the land of the living, and within a moderate distance of the first City in India, they shall have the unknown presence of their sincere and grateful well wisher

Fort William, Sept. 8, 1821.

TO BE SURE.

Vessels in the River.

Statement of Shipping in the River Hooghly, on the 1st of Sept. 1821.

	Vessels	Tons
Honorable Company's Ship,.....	1	550
Free Traders, for Great Britain,.....	12	5423
Ditto, for China,.....	1	416
Country Ships for China,.....	3	1962
Country Ships for London,.....	2	1439
Ships and Vessels employed in the Country Trade,....	23	8064
Laid up for Sale or Freight,.....	23	10235
American Vessels,.....	4	1431
French Vessel,.....	1	162
Portuguese Vessels,.....	3	1063
Siamese Vessel,.....	1	350
Total,.....	74	31098
Free Traders in the River, on the 1st of Sept. 1820,...	15	7001
Ditto ditto, on the 1st of Sept. 1821,.....	13	5839
Decrease,.....	2	1162

Mahratta Prize Money.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I was highly pleased with the dazzling description given in your *Journal* of the 10th instant, of the far famed Nussack Prize Diamond, by which it appears that valuable gem has reached Old England in safety; but Sir, the object of my addressing you is to endeavour to elicit, (through the medium of your *Journal*, and from some of your numerous Correspondents, who have friends at home, in the secrets of the Great,) a little light on the subject of the Mahratta Prize Money, as to when, and how much of it, is to reach us. As to those who are to share in the division of it, I leave it to the Powers that be, to settle "as is the custom of war, in like cases;" but to a participation in it, at all events, the late Army of the Deckan, surely, has some slight claim! Let the decision of the King in Council be which way it may, as a Soldier, a MULL, and an honest man, I say, from my heart, if our Brothers in arms, the gallant Qui Highs have shared with us Mulla their good luck, on similar occasions, God forbid, though in this single instance more fortunate than they, that we should be less liberal, and I sincerely wish them success on the present occasion, though Messrs. G. and Co. and other of your Madras Correspondents should have to wait for another Campaign, before the *Old Accounts* shall be finally adjusted.

I am, however, concerned to say, for the sake of the Qui Highs, as well as for the MULLS; that out of a sum between 199 and 234 Lacks of Rupees, or upwards of Two Millions Sterling, which has been captured during the late Campaign, from the Powers at War with the British Government,—there has not been above 14 Lacks of Rupees as yet handed over to the Prize Agents, as Prize to the Army; and of this melancholy truth, I dare say, no men in either Army feel greater regret than our worthy Prize Agents themselves.

Dekhan, July 26, 1821.

A MULL,

Late of the Army of the Dekhan.

Shipping Arrivals.

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Aug. 22	Bombay Castle	British	C. Hutchinson	Bombay	July 29

Shipping Departures.

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Aug. 22	Arab	British	Brigham	London

Births.

At Masulipatam, on the 12th ultimo, the Lady of Captain T. B. Jones, 6th Extra Battalion, of a Son.

At the Madras Presidency, on the 19th ultimo, the Lady of Henry Dickinson, Esq. of a Daughter.

At Secunderabad, on the 4th ultimo, the Lady of Captain Waddell, Paymaster to the Head Quarters Subsidiary Force, of a Son.

Deaths.

At St. Thomé, Madras, on the 19th ultimo, to which place he had removed but for a few hours, for the benefit of a change of air, Mr. James Sturrock, Military Cap-maker, &c.

At the Madras Presidency, on the 18th ultimo, Mr. Conductor J. Britton, aged 51 years.

On the 28th of May, at Chuncharkah, with the 1st Battalion 4th Regiment on Route to Nagpoor, Ensign C. J. Powell, of the Madras European Regiment.

At Atypamala, on the 8th of June, Lieutenant C. H. Bonham, of the 2d Battalion 20th Native Infantry.

On the 11th of June, at Chitelah, Lieutenant Lionel Trotter, of the 1st Battalion 15th Regiment of Native Infantry.

